

Rejections of Claims 1 and 3-9

Van De Vanter describes an editor for a computer program that is capable of displaying a varying amount of visual inter-token whitespace between tokens in the computer program. The editor determines whether two adjacent tokens should be separated. The editor makes this determination based on the respective classes of the two tokens and by referring to a separator table 168a-1. If the tokens are to be separated, visual whitespace is added between the two tokens when the tokens are displayed. The size of the whitespace is determining by referring to a whitespace display table 194. This teaching is fundamentally and substantially different from the claimed invention.

Regarding Steps a, b, and f of Claim 1, the Office Action states that Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting context information proximate to a location of a cursor, indicating of formatting types in close proximity, or performing formatting. But the Office Action argues that Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text. Applicant recognizes that some editors, including the editor in Van De Vanter, may allow a cursor to be located over existing text. However, applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Van De Vanter contemplates positioning a cursor over a location that has no existing text and placing an insertion point at that location, as recited in Claim 1.

Regarding Step c of Claim 1, the Office Action argues that Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input. The cited section of Van De Vanter refers to applying class-oriented rules in the separator table 168a-1 to two adjacent tokens, which are an identifier and a floating point (column 16, line 62-65). The rules corresponding to the classes of the two tokens indicate that a separator and whitespace should always be included

between an identifier on the left and a floating point number on the right (column 16, line 65-67 to column 17, lines 1-4). Clearly, the rules referred to in the cited section are applied for placing a separator between existing text, namely two tokens that are already in existence. Accordingly, Van De Vanter fails to teach positioning a cursor at a location that has no existing text and selecting a rule for placing an insertion point at the location that has no existing text.

Regarding Step d of Claim 1, the Office Action states that Van De Vanter teaches changing cursor presentation. The Office Action also states on page 14, lines 1-3 that it is commonly known that a mouse cursor will change shape from an arrow to an I-beam when placed over text areas. Applicant recognizes that some editors, including the editor in Van De Vanter, may allow changing the presentation of a cursor. However, the presentation of the cursor in Step d of Claim 1 is changed "to indicate an anticipated location of the insertion point and the type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects located in close proximity to the cursor location." Nothing cited in the Office Action, including Van De Vanter, teaches changing the presentation of a cursor in a way recited in Claim 1.

The deficiencies of Van De Vanter stated above are not remedied by combining Van De Vanter with Fukunaga. Fukunaga teaches displaying a document together with format information of a portion of the document at which the cursor is currently located. However, applicant respectfully submits that Fukunaga, even in combination with Van De Vanter, does not teach collecting context information and placing an insertion point in an electronic document at a location of a cursor where the cursor location has no existing text, as recited in Claim 1.

Regarding Step d of Claim 1, the Office Action argues that Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over

text. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Existing text, as defined in the application, includes properties and attributes (page 12, lines 7-19, Table 1). In particular, existing text includes text, blank lines, tab stops, etc. Noting in the section cited by the Office Action teaches collecting context information at a cursor position that is not located over existing text. Fig. 4 in Fukunaga cited by the Office Action clearly shows that cursor K is over a tab stop, which is conspicuously shown by tab position symbol 305. Furthermore, the specification in the present application explicitly includes tab stops as existing text (page 12, lines 11-16). Accordingly, Fukunaga fails to teach collecting context information at a location that has no existing text.

The Office Action on page 14, lines 9-10 also argues that Fukunaga shows a "line return" indicative of a line with no existing text, citing Fig. 4. The Office Action also stated that this is indicative of blank lines or paragraphs to which a cursor is placed. However, Fig. 4 clearly shows that the cursor K is placed over a tab stop followed by text, and not over a blank line without existing text. Thus, Fukunaga still fails to teach collecting context information at a location that has no existing text.

The Office Action states that Fukunaga teaches display of formatting information proximate to cursor location, subsequent to a change in said cursor location. Applicant respectfully submits that this argument is not applicable to Claim 1 because relevant portion of Claim 1 recites "changing a presentation of the cursor." Therefore, displaying of formatting information proximate to cursor location is not relevant to Claim 1.

The Office Action further argues that Fukunaga teaches performing formatting relative to cursor placement, citing Fig. 3 and Fig. 4. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 merely show a format 301 being displayed at the top of an electronic document. Format 301

displays formatting information of a portion of the document at which a cursor is currently located. Neither the text nor the figures of Fukunaga shows performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document, as recited in Claim 1.

For the reasons stated above, applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 is allowable over Van De Vanter and Fukunaga. Claims 3-9 depend on Claim 1 and are thus allowable for at least the reasons just stated.

Rejections of Claims 10-14

To reject Claim 10, the Office Action applies arguments somewhat similar to those used to reject Claim 1. Thus, relevant remarks presented above in conjunction with Claim 1 also apply to Claim 10.

In particular, the Office Action argues that Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text. As previously stated, Fukunaga merely teaches the display of format information of a portion of a document at which the cursor is currently located. Fukunaga fails to teach collecting context information at a location that has no existing text, as recited in Claim 10.

The Office Action also argues that Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input, and a method of cursor selection and display based upon insertion point, resulting in different editing behaviors and cursor presentations. Applicant respectfully disagrees. As stated previously, the class-oriented rules taught by Van De Vanter apply to determine separation between two adjacent tokens, which are already in existence in an electronic document. Also, the cursors shown in Tables 4-7 in Van De Vanter are clearly located

between existing tokens. Nothing in Van De Vanter teaches displaying a cursor associated with a coinciding rule, at a location that has no existing text.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that Claim 10 is allowable over Van De Vanter and Fukunaga. Claims 11-14 depend on Claim 10 and are thus allowable for at least the reasons just stated and those discussed in conjunction with Claim 1.

Rejections of Claims 15-20

To reject Claim 15, the Office Action applies arguments somewhat similar to those used to reject Claims 1 and 10. Thus, relevant remarks presented above in conjunction with Claims 1 and 10 also apply to Claim 15.

In particular, the Office Action states that Van Der Vanter does not specifically teach the repeating of steps 15(a) - 15(e) of Claim 15. But the Office Action argues that Van Der Vanter teaches repeating visual offset calculation of subsequent alignment markers and the repeating of the steps would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because of Van De Vanter's taught advantage of repetition, providing a way to display a complete formatting change to the method as taught by Van De Vanter. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The section in Van De Vanter cited by the Office Action relates to alignment markers, which are not related to the claimed invention in any way. Although the word "repeated" appears in the cited section, nothing in Van De Vanter or the Office Action teaches or explains how repeating offset calculations for alignment markers apply to the claimed invention.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that Claim 15 is allowable over Van De Vanter and Fukunaga. Claims 16-20 depend on Claim 15 and are thus allowable for at least the reasons just stated and those discussed in conjunction with Claims 1 and 10.

Rejections of Claim 21

To reject Claim 21, the Office Action applies arguments somewhat similar to those used to reject Claims 1, 10 and 15. Thus, relevant remarks presented above in conjunction with Claims 1, 10 and 15 also apply to Claim 21.

In particular, the Office Action employs the same argument used in rejecting Claim 1, 10, and 15 that Fukunaga teaches displaying of formatting information proximate to a cursor location and performing formatting relative to cursor placement, citing Fig. 3 and Fig. 4. However, the cursor K in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 is clearly and conspicuously over an existing line. Thus, Fukunaga fails to teach the method of Claim 21, which is explicitly stated in the claim to be applicable over a cursor location that is without an existing line. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that Claim 21 is allowable over Van De Vanter and Fukunaga.

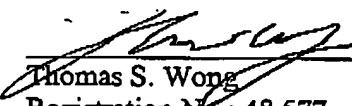
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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